News

Macomb County
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Macomb County expands Discount Dental Program providers

MOUNT CLEMENS, Mich. – Macomb County's groundbreaking Discount Dental Program becomes more enticing on April 2, when new subscribers will be able to select dentists from a second network that makes nearly 600 additional providers available in Macomb County alone.

The Macomb County Board of Commissioners expanded the choice of dental providers for the discount program to include the DenteMax network of dentists and dental specialists. DenteMax, a wholly owned subsidiary of Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan, brings to the program an additional 581 providers in Macomb County and more than 2,000 throughout the Detroit metropolitan area.

About 100 Macomb County dentists affiliated with CAREington International Corp. already are offering services to existing subscribers to the county's Discount Dental Program. New subscribers will have the option of choosing either the CAREington or DenteMax system, depending on their personal needs.

"Just about every Macomb County resident now lives no more than 6 miles away from a participating dentist, and with this expansion it's quite possible that the dentist you see now is one of our providers," said Commissioner Paul Gieleghem of Clinton Township, chairman of the Senior Citizen Services Committee.

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The program is available to all Macomb County residents regardless of age, income or personal health. Macomb County enrolled more than 660 households, representing more than 1,600 individuals, since the program began in August 2006.

A choice of either plan, offered through the Macomb County Department of Senior Citizen Services, costs \$69 per year and covers all household members. Members then receive a 20-50 percent discount on a comprehensive list of dental procedures, including annual oral exams, cleanings, x-rays, fillings, crowns and orthodontics.

"This is one more example of Macomb County providing a much needed benefit to our residents without any county expense," said William Crouchman, of St. Clair Shores, chairman of the Macomb County Board of Commissioners.

The comprehensive list of providers available to clients of the Discount Dental Program includes general dentists and specialists such as oral surgeons, endodontists, orthodontists and periodontists.

"The Discount Dental Program is an excellent choice for people who have no dental insurance, but it also works for those who exceed the annual coverage limits that come with many insurance plans," said Angela Willis, director of Senior Citizen Services.

Details about the programs – including brochures, provider lists, sample fee schedules and applications – are available at www.macombcountymi.gov/discountdental. Information also is available by calling Senior Citizen Services at 586-469-6313.

About Macomb County

Macomb County is an enriching community in Southeastern Michigan that has one of the state's fastest rates of growth. Its 841,000 residents make it Michigan's third-largest county, with direct access to Lake St. Clair and Anchor Bay, and a host of cultural and entertainment options. Its highly skilled workforce and investment in new and expanding businesses make it open to enterprise. Active civic leadership translates into balanced budgets and Michigan's second-lowest tax rate. An increasingly diverse population and high quality of life make Macomb County accessible to all.